



**Westchester Unit 9200
Civil Service Employees Association
112 East Post Road
White Plains, New York 10601**

Minutes of Shop Steward / Monthly Meeting

TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 2009

Karen Pecora, President

Noel De La Cruz, 1st Vice President

Edward J. Magilton, 2nd Vice President

Jim Kelly, 3rd Vice President

[Vacant], 4th Vice President

Elio Giuliani, Treasurer

Kimberly Gotzen, Secretary

Kwabena Manu, Union Representative

Michael Wolf, Sergeant-at-Arms

- **Officers in Attendance: All officers were in attendance except Secretary Gotzen.**
- **Meeting was held at the CSEA Local 860 Office, 595 West Hartsdale Avenue, White Plains.**
- **Meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by President Pecora.**
- **Pledge of Allegiance**
- **Moment of silence for past members and family members and troops serving throughout the world**

Unit 9200 Scholarship Awards Ceremony

The Unit 9200 Scholarship Winners for 2009 and their families attended the Monthly Meeting for the Awards Ceremony. Mike Wolf, Chair of the Scholarship Committee, announced that Scholarship Applications were received from 27 very accomplished students this year, the most since the program began in 2007, and after a difficult selection process, 10 Scholarships were awarded to the following children of Unit 9200 Members:

Jose Footmon, son of Paula Burrus-Footmon (Probation)
Deirdre Kelly, daughter of Jim Kelly (Environmental Facilities)
Vincent Lovallo, son of Linda Lovallo (Parks, Recreation & Conservation)
Bibeck Patel, son of Kalpna Patel (Labs & Research)
Elizabeth Perry, daughter of Joseph Perry (Health)
Malina Pooppallil, daughter of Latha Pooppallil (Social Services)
Valerie Puchalowski, daughter of Ruthann Pisano (Information Technology)
Katelyn Santoro, daughter of Kathy Santoro (Senior Programs & Services)
Mary Ann Thomas, daughter of Johnson Thomas (Finance)
Alexandra Winters, daughter of Linda Winters (Health)

Agenda Topics for Discussion

➤ **4-Day Work Week:**

The Unit 9200 Executive Board met with the Board of Legislators last week to reiterate the benefits to our CSEA members of being given the option to choose a 4-Day Work Week. They seemed to be very receptive to us, asked questions and requested we gather and provide some additional information. As we have any news, we will relay it to the members. Please keep in mind that this would be a choice for the members and not a mandatory change. The issue is that some departments offer this choice and some do not, and we would like the option to be available to all members in all departments. Our feeling is that there are very few departments in which this schedule would not be feasible.

➤ **Sick Bank Balance:**

As of **May 21, 2009**, we have **4,441** days in the Sick Bank, after having awarded time to all of the members that had outstanding applications. **July 15, 2009** is the next audit by the County of the Sick Bank Balance, so we may not have a revised number of days by the July Monthly Member Meeting, but we plan to update the balance at each month's meeting in the future.

Open Forum

Questions from members answered by President Pecora and Unit 9200 Executive Board Members:

➤ **What would the hours be on a 4-Day Work Week Schedule?**

The 35-hour workweek would be divided equally among 4 days instead of 5, which works out to **8 hours and 45 minutes per day** as opposed to the 7 hours per day in a normal 5-day workweek, plus your regular one-hour lunch period. For example, some departments already using this schedule work from 7:45 AM to 5:30 PM, and some work from 8:00 AM to 5:45 PM, 4 days per week, and choose one day of the week off. We will work with the departments on the details of the schedules once the proposal is approved.

➤ **How Many Members are Currently Participating in the Sick Bank?**

We won't have an exact number until after the audit is completed, but it is approximately 2000.

➤ **What are the qualifications for Sick Bank applications from members that have a history of abusing time and leave?**

Time and leave history may be investigated as part of the approval process, but generally, if you have a qualifying illness or injury with documentation from a physician, you are a member in good standing of the Sick Bank, and you will be able to return to work, your application should be approved. Workers' Compensation injuries are the only instances that definitely do not qualify for Sick Bank benefits. Any questionable applications are referred to the Executive Board and a decision will be made between the board and the committee.

➤ **Is there a limit of days you can get from the sick bank?**

Approved Sick Bank applications for benefits receive up to 26 weeks of time paid (13 pay periods), in 40-day increments each requiring documentation by a physician. In the event that more time is needed, an application for an extension can be made and will be reviewed by the Executive Board

➤ **Is there a timetable for when we will receive a printed copy of the contract?**

We have recently met with the County to finalize the contract language. We don't have an exact timetable, but we are working to get it printed as soon as possible.

➤ **Are ALL prescription acid reflux and allergy medications through MEDCO subject to the special \$50.00 co-payment?**

Yes. All drugs in both of these classes, Proton Pump Inhibitors (PPI) and Non-Sedating Antihistamines (NSA), in the **Brand Name OR Generic** form by prescription will be subject to the \$50.00 pharmacy co-pay for a 30-day supply or the \$100.00 mail-order co-pay for a 90-day supply. We suggest that you talk to your doctor to find out if an Over-The-Counter alternative is available that will work for you, which may be the same or very similar to the prescription drugs, and will most likely be much less expensive.

Officer's Reports

President Pecora stated to the members that as of the next Monthly Member Meeting in July, there will be a new Executive Board in place after the elections are tallied on **Friday, June 12, 2009**. As the current President, she would like to ask that the members show the new Executive Board the same respect, enthusiasm and participation that has been shown to her as 1st Vice President and now as President as well as to the rest of the current Executive Board over the last 8 years. She appreciates everything that the members attending have done for the union, that attending these meetings each month is a sacrifice that is appreciated, and requests that they relay this message to the rest of the members.

Old Business

No old business discussed.

New Business

- The next monthly meeting is scheduled for: **TUESDAY, JULY 7, 2009** (5:30 P.M. Light Dinner / 6:00 P.M. Meeting)

Adjournment

- Meeting was adjourned at 6:48 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Gotzen

Kimberly Gotzen
Secretary / Chair, Communications and Public Relations Committee / Shop Steward – DSS, Unit 9200

Handouts / Attachments

- **AGENDA - OPEN MEMBERSHIP MEETING**
- **Local 860 – Defensive Driving Courses [January through June 2009]**
- **Local 860 – Defensive Driving Courses [July through November 2009]**
- **CSEA – New Yorkers Who Live On MAIN STREET Deserve Better [Proposed State Budget]**
- **CSEA – 2009-10 Executive Budget Alert: EDUCATION**
- **CSEA – New Yorkers Who Live On MAIN STREET Deserve Better [Omnibus Appropriations Act]**
- **The Work Force - 'CIVIL SERVICE LAW Section 75: *The Disciplinary Process*'**
- **The Journal News Article: "Avoid drastic cuts by making wealthy pay fair share" (New York tax hikes)**
- **Steward Update - 'Challenge Those Suspensions'**
- **Steward Update - 'Evidence That Counts'**
- **The Buyer's Edge**